

St Mary's School, Mosgiel, Board of Trustees

Principal	Mike Brosnahan	Parent Reps.	Donna Burns
Chairperson	Donald Mitchell		Sally McNeilly
Staff Rep.	Anne Simmons		Andrew Baines
Proprietor's Rep	Fr. Michael Dooley		Martin McArthur
	Mary Hay		
	James Crooks	Secretary	Pauline Evans

Mission Statement: <i>St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality Primary education with a special emphasis on Catholic values and attitudes.</i>

Board of Trustees Newsletter November 2011

Principal's Report

School Roll – 147

Mike Brosnahan reported on this year's camp for Year 7 & 8, it was at Camp Columba near Gore. The children had a huge range of activities including rafting, low/high ropes, flying fox, archery, abseiling, slug guns, and kayaking. This was very successful and the behaviour of the children was exceptionally outstanding – a credit to the school and themselves.

Finance

The school has changed bank accounts. For your internet bill payments please change your account number to ASB: 12 3196 0004102 00.

Overall the budget for 2011 is on track. Mike Brosnahan, Donna Burns and Pauline Evans will meet soon to discuss and set the budget for 2012.

Curriculum

This year the Board has received curriculum reports which have reviewed the following curriculum areas: Swimming, Reading, Writing, Science, Maths (Geometry & Measurement) and the Visual Arts.

Operation/Self Review

All Policies due for review have been reviewed over the year. One policy the Board would like to remind parents of is the Concern and Complaints Policy.

Procedure if you have a Concern

What to do if you have a Concern

1. Discuss the matter with the class teacher

It is best to make an appointment by contacting the teacher directly or telephoning the school office.

2. Discuss the matter with the principal

Should you wish to follow up your discussion that you had with the class teacher, do not hesitate to contact the Principal, if this is not appropriate then contact the Deputy Principal

– Please telephone the school office for an appointment.

3. Formal complaint to the Board of Trustees

Should you still not be satisfied a formal complaint, in writing, can be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

The procedure detailed above needs to be actioned in the order as listed.

It is our hope that St Mary's is a school with open, honest communications.

It is far better to talk a problem through in its early stages rather than risk it becoming a major issue.

Property

The plan of our school moving to the Holy Cross College playing field site is still progressing. The land our school currently sits on has been sold subject to conditions and consent, to finalize this process we need to go through the appropriate processes. The Board are working hard to ensure that changes are beneficial to our school.

P.T.A.

The recent fair was another great success for St Mary's School with \$16,400 raised. The Board wishes to thank the dedicated and hardworking PTA, and fair co-ordinator Rachel Morris, as well as all those parents and supporters who offered to help on the day. The whole day was excellent, thank you to the families for all the generous donations of prizes and support of our fair.

This year the PTA has made donations to the school allowing purchase of the following: Library Books, School Flags, Literacy Resources, Religious Education Resources, Sound System, Graduation Gifts, Digital Camera, and Musical Instruments.

Thanks to the PTA and your support our school is very well resourced which benefits all the children and teachers.

Special Character

Please keep our ex-pupil Deacon Vaughan Hook in your prayers as he prepares for his ordination to Priesthood on Friday 2nd December at 7pm, in our Parish Church at Holy Cross College. His thanksgiving Mass will be on Saturday 3rd December at 11am also at Holy Cross. St Mary's school choir pupils will be involved with both services. You are invited to attend these services.

2012 Staffing

During the course of 2011 we have had three teachers who are on fixed term contracts.

Mrs Baines will be returning next year to teach Room Seven (the Year Seven and Eight class).

Mrs Kenneally is returning from study leave and will teach in Room Six.

Sadly Mrs Claire Peters has resigned, she is expecting a third child in May and we wish her and her family well for the future.

A position in the middle school has been advertised and we hope to make an appointment before the end of the year.

Final school Mass and Year 8 Graduation Ceremony will be held on December the 15th at 6pm

All St Mary's pupils are to be in their school uniform for this special occasion

– everyone is welcome.

Pauline Evans

Secretary

For the St Mary's Board of Trustees